

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-20 in the application. In a previous response, the Applicants amended Claims 1, 8 and 14. In the present response, the Applicants have not amended, canceled or added any claims. Accordingly, Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-6 and 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-6 and 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,233,691 to Atkinson. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

Atkinson is directed to battery powered computer systems, and more specifically, to circuits and methods for reducing the power consumption of the computer system. (Column 1, lines 6-9). Atkinson discloses a computer system including a CPU chip that receives a clocking signal from an oscillator. Typically, the oscillator provides a 20Mhz clocking signal to the CPU chip. (Column 3, lines 43-57).

Atkinson does not teach operating a reconfigurable circuit including selecting an alternative power mode when an operating characteristic falls outside of a predetermined operating range of the reconfigurable circuit, wherein the alternative power mode is obtained by adapting the reconfigurable circuit. (Claims 1 and 8). Instead, Atkinson teaches altering the frequency of the clock signal provided by the oscillator based on, for example, cache misses in the CPU chip. (Column 4, lines 57-63). The Examiner asserts that the CPU chip is a reconfigurable circuit as presently claimed. (Examiner's Final Action, page 2). Even assuming this assertion is true, the clock signal is not part of the CPU chip but is an input that is provided by the oscillator to a microprocessor of the CPU

chip. (Column 6, line 65 to column 7, line 2). Thus, Atkinson teaches altering an input to a CPU chip based on activity of the CPU chip but does not teach selecting an alternative power mode that is obtained by adapting the CPU chip itself.

The Examiner asserts that clock control circuitry in the CPU chip is adapted to reduce the clock frequency provided to the microprocessor. (Examiner's Final Action, page 3). Atkinson teaches the frequency of the clock is defined by bits in a register (Column 4, lines 19-50). Based on events, the bits in the register can change causing the clock frequency to toggle between pre-defined speeds. (Column 7, lines 2-10). Thus, Atkinson does not teach the CPU chip is adapted to change the frequency of the clock but teaches that bits (software) of a register are changed to alter the input clock signal provided to the microprocessor.

As discussed above, Atkinson does not teach an alternative power mode that is obtained by adapting a reconfigurable circuit as recited in independent Claims 1 and 8. Atkinson, therefore, does not disclose each and every element of the claimed invention and as such, is not an anticipating reference of independent Claims 1 and 8 and Claims dependent thereon. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the §102 rejection with respect to Claims 1-6 and 8-12 and allow issuance thereof.

II. Rejection of Claims 7 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 7 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Atkinson. As discussed above, Atkinson does not teach an alternative power mode that is obtained by adapting a reconfigurable circuit as recited in independent Claims 1 and 8. Instead, Atkinson teaches changing power consumption by changing pre-defined frequencies of a

clock signal from an oscillator by changing bits in a register. (Column 4, lines 19-50 and Column 7, lines 2-10). Thus, Atkinson neither teaches nor suggests each and every element of Claims 1 and 8 and Claims 7 and 13 which depend thereon.

Additionally, Atkinson does not teach or suggest each and every element of independent Claim 14 which also includes an alternative power mode that is obtained by adapting a reconfigurable circuit and Claims 15-20 which depend on Claim 14. Atkinson, therefore, fails to teach or suggest the invention recited in independent Claims 1, 8 and 14 and Claims dependent thereon. Accordingly, Claims 7 and 13-20 are not obvious in view of Atkinson and the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the §103 rejection of Claims 7 and 13-20 and allow issuance thereof.

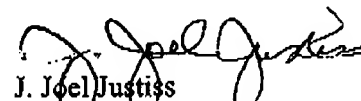
III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-20.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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